Correspondence of
Mess. Chamerovzow & Pillsbury
and Others.

Copied by Miss Estlin, at her father's
special desire, for a few friends in
America.—

Please return it to S. May Jr.

1st sheet.

(Copy.) Ist From Mr Chamerovzow to Mr Pillsbury.

13 Gloster Terrace Camberwell
15 Feb - 1855.

My dear Sir,

I am indebted to Miss Estlin for a clue to yr actual whereabouts. I much regret that when you were in London I did not enjoy the pleasure I have so long looked forward to, of receiving you, & certain of yr friends at my humble abode to converse on A. S. Matters! There were circumstances in the past, some in the present, & more perhaps in the future, wh made me especially desirous of cultivating a more intimate personal acquaintance with you, & wh cause me to regret the more that accident shd have so largely contributed to defeat my design. I quite feel that I have far more cause of regret than you can have, for the advantages of a personal & closer communication were likely to have been exclusively mine. I trust however that shd you leave England without first revisiting the Metropolis, you will take with you the assurance of my earnest desire to see your efforts, & those of your co-adjutors, crowned with success & that I shall consider it a privilege in any manner to contribute to it; especially by striving to clear~~ing~~ away "the clouds that lower o'er our house," & thus render the antislavery atmosphere, at least in this country, equally genial to all co-workers. But I am trespassing perhaps, Please excuse my doing so.

The more immediate purport of this note is to ask you to be good enough to favor me with the data on which you stated to the recent Conference that 9000 African slaves were annually imported into the Southern States? One report makes you say 19.000, The former number seems already very large, & I am quite at a loss to reconcile the statement without further explanation from you, with the published statistical returns of the Census, & with other facts relating to the Slave population of the South, collated from independent sources. The laws in those States are very stringent against the introduction of slaves from Africa, & it seems almost impossible that so large a number as 9000 shd be annually introduced with impunity, especially as there must exist considerable difficulty in disposing of them. An explanation on this point wd very much oblige

My dr Sir,
Yours very faithfully
L. A. Chamerovzow.

Parker Pillsbury Esq.

II.nd Reply of Mr Pillsbury to Mr Chamerovzow.

Manchester Feb. 23-55.

Sir,

Nine or ten thousand slaves, from the best accounts are annually imported into the U. States. Judge Jay quotes a speech in Congress making the number 15 thousand. I prefer the lowest rather than the highest estimate, tho' New York has now 35 ships in the Slave Trade.

You have said you shd have had your verbatim Report of the late London Conference issued before now, but for the fact that you cd not get the speeches from the hands of those who made them, until the last of Decr. And the first intimation you have ever given me that you wish or expected any such report of our speeches, you have conveyed in a question upon one single point, & that one of statistics whh must of course be somewhat uncertain afte

You pretend to some regrets at not seeing me more in London. I was a whole week ready to be seen, – two days of which were spent in the same room with yourself. Since my acquaintance with the New Broad St. (so called) Anti-slavery Committee, & their Secretaries, I have ceased to surprised at anything, & so am not astonished at your pretended regret at not having made my acquaintan for such reasons as you have given. Spare yourself I intr you the ridiculous as well as false positions yr letters at ~~different~~ various times are placing you in when different dates are compared together. They show you to be weak if not wicke to a most surprising degree. Were you my deadliest foe, I cd w you nothing worse than to be compelled to look at yrself in such a mirror as yr letters at different times adjusted toge wd present before you. You must not presume people so weak as not to see thro' such gauze & gossamer.

And then as to myself personally, when an individual rudely beckons me with his forefinger out of a room, & trots me behind him as a prisoner or a convict, downstairs, at a quick pace, not speaking, nor allo me to speak, & brings me into the presence of men who, he knows have for years been at open variance with me (& my objects?) without consult me at all as to time, place, or manner of introduction, or whether I wd be introd at all, he so far outrages the commonest civilities of all decent society a put it out of my power to hold correspondence with him. This you hav
Had I no reason but this, I shd still feel obliged to decline any furth acquaintance with you at present.

But even all this shall not prevent me from forbearingly & for-giving by subscribing myself still

Yr truest firm friend, & constant well wisher

Parker Pillsbury.

Mr L. A. Chamerovzow.

III.

My

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Tru

III.rd Mr Chamerovzow to Miss Estlin.

Camberwell N. Rd. Sat: eve:

My dr Miss Estlin,

I enclose a most extraordinary letter, wh. on my return home this aftern I found awaiting me from Mr Pillsbury. It is a reply to a note of mine, written a few days ago, asking him for information on one particular point in the speech he made at the A.S. Conference, & at the same time regretting the contretemps wh. had prevented my meeting with him & a few of his friends & mine, subsequently to the conclusion of the business.

In my last letter to you, I think I observed, that I did
think I c^d. after penning that note I was about to do,
sh^d. he reply thereto coolly, — take any further steps w
might seem to convey an impression that I was press
my acquaintance on him. I felt even then that I h
gone almost beyond the bounds of what I held to be du
to my own sense of self respect; but in the hope th
I might not be misunderstood, & with a

[continued ~~page~~ sheet 2]

(2nd sheet)

single-minded desire to cultivate Mr P.'s acquaint-ance for the sake of himself alone first, & for the sake secondly of friendly intercourse hereafter, & for that of the Cause we are both advocating, I again expressed ~~a~~ the regret I sincerely felt at my not having met with him as I anticipated, & reiterated a hope that if he returned to Town he wd afford me opportunity of seeing him. I appeal to you, & to Mr Thompson, & also & to Mr Chesson, whether I have not, from the first I knew of Mr Pillsbury's arrival in this country, held the same language of amicable feeling, & manifested a desire to improve the opportunity of his presence to become better acquainted with him, as one of the leading members of the "American A.S. Society." My sole object was to acquire such information as to the state of feeling on the part of the members of that Society, as wd enable me to see my way better to remove the causes of dissension existing amongst Abolitnts on both sides of the Atlantic, or at least to do my best towards so desirable a consummation.

My first attempts were most ungraciously repulsed by Mr Pillsbury, who did not scruple to write a letter in wh he made a direct mis statement; not to employ a stronger term: relating to the invitation he received to speak at our last Annual Meeting. You are familiar with the subsequent circumstances, & how that even in the estimation of Mr P.'s friends here he was considered to have been, to use the mildest form of expression, singularly unhappy in his choice of terms, & not less eccentric in his interpretation of Saxon English. I hesitate not ~~to say~~ now, as I ~~did~~ said to you & others them, that I felt myself aggrieved by Mr P.'s course on that occasion; but I did not therefore act an unfriendly part to him, nor express myself as disposed to judge harshly of him. I accepted as satisfactory - always placing upon his words the construction your Revd father gave as his (Mr P.'s) interpretation of their sense, - the statement he made in reference to that letter of his in the Standard.

But then came the W. W. Brown's business, causing another complication. Leaving Brown's name out of the question, I will appeal to all who knew anything of the particulars of that transaction, whether I did not still employ the same friendly language whenever I spoke of Mr Pillsbury: whether I did not on several occasions express an earnest desire to meet with him & confer. I went even further. I wrote to him, inviting him to see me when he shd come to Town, & I have his reply, in wh. he intimates the pleasure he anticipated from the projected meeting.

Then came the Conference, & I will only repeat that I used every effort to ascertain where Mr P. could be found, as both Chesson & Geo. Thompson can testify. In fact from beginning to end I acted in perfect good faith & friendliness of spirit towards Mr P., & when I did see Mr P. at the Conference, he did not hesitate to return with a warm pressure the greeting I gave him, hurried tho' it was. I thought it sincere on his part. The letter I send is therefore to me perfectly inexplicable. But as it deals with particular matters I consider it my duty to answer the statements he has made, leaving your Revd father to judge whether I deserve this most insulting, ungentlemanly & coarse rejoinder I got about the Report: Mr Thompson & Mr Chesson know that I made repeated applications to them to inform me of Mr P.'s address. I applied to them, concluding, as they were on such intimate terms, that they wd be able to tell me where he was to be found. They cd not do so. I waited, on Mr T.'s assurance that Mr P. "wd be sure to turn up," consoling myself with the reflection that *au pis aller* I cd fall back on Mr Farmer's notes for a faithful record of Mr P.'s speech; for Chesson informed me that one had been taken. Time slipped by: then the *Advocate* came out containing a sufficiently ample report of Mr P's speech for practical purposes, & I then relinquished the idea of hunting him out. But at a Committee meeting a question arose that required a little explanation from him, & I *was directed by minute* to apply to Mr P. for information. I did so, obtaining his address from you, after ascertaining, from the columns of the Advocate that he had been in Bristol. You see his reply. Now this is a mere matter of fact explanation that ought to prove that Mr P.'s insinuations against me, as to the insincerity of my wish to have his speech is unfounded, & that the conclusion — the offensive conclusion — he has drawn from his own interpretation of the matter is altogether erroneous. I cd give him no intimation that I wanted his speech, when I had not his address, but I sent a letter for him, to Mr Thompson, or to Mr Chesson, — but I think to Mr T. conveying that intimation or at any rate a desire to see him on that subject & others

Mr P. expresses in the most discourteous phraseology his doubts of the sincerity of my wish to meet with & confer with him. It is not my habit to argue with a ma who has come to a foregone conclusion, & I shall n condescend to it in this case with Mr Pillsbury. To you, however, I repeat the expression of that regret & I am willing to abide any test of its sincerity that may ~~reasonably~~ honorably accept. Mr Thompson knows he has publicly stated it – Chesson knows – that went to Mr T's office on the very evening before the Conf expressly to ascertain when & where we sh.d all meet. But neither he nor Mr Thompson had the remote idea where he (~~Mr P.~~) was putting up, & reluctantly I gave up the idea of meeting with him till the morrow. On that morrow, as on the previous day, it was impossible for me, in the midst of the heavy business I h on hand, to say half a dozen words to Mr P. But th few words we did exchange were of friendly greeting. He appeared & disappeared quite suddenly, nor gave me any the smallest intimation of his abiding place, tho' he must have known, from the letters he had received from me, that I wished to know it. Did not this look as tho' he thought me obtrusive, & desired to avoid any closer acquaintance? Might I not justly infer this have been the case? It is nothing to the point that we were "two days" in the same room togeth Had I no eyes but for Mr P.? A great part of the time I did not even know where he sat or stood, tho' I was anxiously seeking him. The entire weight of that Conference rested on my shoulders & I had abundance to before dinner, & after the sittings to occupy my time. I had to sit up the intervening night between the sittings, as I had done on the Saturday & Monday previously thereto. Mr P. ha therefore no warranty for his offensive & ungentlemanly intimations against my sincerity.

Still less pardonable is what follows. *Weak* I may be. It is a human failing to be weak. I am not, however, weak enough to do what he has done in respect to me, & that is to misrepresent any man, & insult the man I have misrepresented. I am weak in not resenting such insults as Mr P. has showered upon me, but it is because I alone am insulted & I bear them tamely for the cause's sake. That is to say I *have* borne them. I am "wicked" too, no doubt. This is incidental to fallen humanity. But I trust I may be judged more leniently by my Maker, than Mr Pillsbury has the charity to do. His charge of "wickedness" & "weakness" appears to be founded on some alleged contradictions in certain letters of mine; at least I infer so. He can only refer to the Dr. W. Brown controversy. I shall appeal to Mr Thompson to justify me here. He had a very strong opinion on the same question, & it was not favorable to me. But let Mr P. ask him, what was his opinion after the interview we had immediately after my return from the Continent. I believe Mr T. never yet has done me the justice to communicate to his friends the result of our interview. Tho' I entirely acquit him of any wilful intention to damage me by his silence, Mr P.'s letter compels me to say that I now see that silence has done me damage, & I shall ask Mr Th. to do me justice in order to silence such ungenerous statements as those Mr P. has made to my detriment.

Next respecting my "rudely beckoning" Mr P. &c. Was anything ever more ridiculous in itself than that a man sh^d feel offended because another "beckoned" him; or more absurd in its self-sufficien than the manner in wh. Mr P. has taken umbrage at the circumstance. The facts were these to the best of my recollection.

Chesson had arranged on the Wednesday evening that Mr Sturge, G. Thompson, & others, shd meet the following morning for the purpose of conferring on the subject of avoiding dissension. This he did in consequence of an expressed desire on both sides to meet for this purpose. It had also been arranged that Mr Pillsbury shd be of the party, in order that he might speak his mind to the persons he was to see, & hear what they had to say. *I did not know* until sometime in the morning of Wednesday that the appointment had been actually made, & as it was, it seems to have not taken place as originally contemplated, in consequence of the absence of some of the parties. What happened? I heard quite accidentally that Mr Sturge & one or two members of our Comee. were in conference with Mr Thompson, & bearing in mind that I had told Mr P. of the intended meeting, — at least such is my impression — & that he was to be there, I sought him in the room, but for some time vainly. When I saw him *I did beckon him* out. How else, he being at a distance, could I have intimated my desire to speak with him? I *did* precede him out of the room. But I told him where we were going, & what for, & taking him into the room where the parties in question were, I formally introduced him to Mr Sturge, & *hurried* back to the Conference, where I knew I was wanted. I say it is very petty of Mr P. to ruffle up his feathers at that. My motive was of the purest, & I do not see that I outraged "the commonest civilities *& courtesies of all decent society.*" If the scruples circumstance so ~~annoyed him~~ wounded his dignity, why did he not resent *on the instant*, by not obeying the friendly beckoning, & staying moodily where he was? This assumption of offended pride is an afterthought; but if Mr P. is offended, I am sure I am willing to tender him an apology for the unintentional affront; & to promise that hereafter I will ~~only~~ never approach him but in kid gloves.

With regard to the concluding paragraph of Mr P's letter, I have no idea of the consistency, the spirit, or the honesty of the man, who ~~still~~ whilst calling another man "weak if not wicked to a most surprising degree," & intimating that he is dishonest & untruthful, professes to subscribe himself that man's "sincere friend." I despise such hypocrisy. It is unmanly too. I do not desire to ~~quarel~~ quarrel with any man, still less with such a man as Pillsbury, who is associated with me in a great work, however feebly I may, by his side, be able to co-operate for its accomplishment. But if I had entertained of Mr P. such an opinion as he has expressed to myself of me, I would not have committed my hand to a subscription so stultifying as that with which he concludes his letter. I would have stopped short at the preceding paragraph, leaving out the words "at present."

I am, deeply pained, my dr Miss Estlin to find myself compelled to write in this strain to you. If Mr P. has succeeded during his recent tour, in making friends to himself, as you assure me he has, I feel satisfied it has not been by adopting towards them the course he has adopted towards me. I have done with him for ever; unless, convinced of the error

into which he has fallen, he may think prope
to express his regret for having expressed himsel
towards me as he has done. I shall never al
personal feelings,—tho' as in this instance the
have been grossly & wantonly outraged,—to stan
between me & duty to the cause. The Abolitionis
of America, to whatever section they may belong,
shall never have cause to charge me with vilify
& misrepresenting them; (tho' I do not believe all
they say of us on that point;) but I cannot regard
Mr P. in any other light at present, than in that
a man whose mind has become morbidly pre
disposed to misconstrue & misrepresent "things a
as they are"; & as being singularly devoid of that cha
which he demands sh^{d} be extended to him as w
as to all men. My opinion of him may be of little v
but he has fallen in it, nevertheless, so far down
that I fear he can never regain the position you
high commendation of him warranted me
in entertaining.

Please return his letter not later than by Thursday's or
Friday's post — & y^{rs} very faithfully

L. A. Chamerovzow.

IVth. Miss Estlin to Mr Chamerovzow.

Bristol. Feb 25 1855.

My d^{r} Mr Ch^{w}

I return without delay the letter you have sen
for our perusal; & greatly regret the impossibility of do
anything to make you & Mr Pillsbury know & unders
each other, as well as we think we comprehend you
both. But I will let Mr P. have your letter to me
& from that he will see exactly how you view his
reply to your recent communication. He was
I am aware, annoyed, & so were the friends who w
at the Conference with him) at his being unexpec
conducted into the presence of Mess. Sturge & Forste
neither of whom had showed any desire to make

(4th sheet)

his acquaintance, & he came away from London with the belief that you were desirous of avoiding him rather than of holding further communication with him, as you did not take any steps at the Conference to secure a subsequent interview. With regard to the apparent inconsistency of the closing paragraph of his letter, with the rest of its contents, I can only reiterate what I remarked once before, that altho' his American mode of address differs widely from ours & his style of thought & language may be at times so peculiar & unlike our own, as to be unintelligible to, or misunderstood by, those whom he addresses, — yet that he never says what he does not mean.

My Father sends his regards & says he is not surprised at the misunderstanding between you & Mr Pillsbury.

Believe me, sincerely yours

Mary A Estlin.

Vth. Mr Chamerovzow to Miss Estlin.

My Dr Miss Estlin   Camberwell. Wedy. eveng.

If Mr Pillsbury "never says what he does not mean," I think he ought to be the more careful what he does say; especially when he attacks another man. It is no fault of mine that Mr P. has not known me better. He may have had the impression you refer to when he left London, but assuredly his condemnation of me was hasty, to say the very least — for it was to be presumed there were circumstances that interfered to prevent our meeting, wh. he might have taken into account. I cannot really see that his "American mode of address," & his style of thought & language" are any warranty for offering a positive insult to me, (or to anybody else.) To be weak, wicked, & untruthful, is indeed to be low sunk as a man; if Mr P. means what he says (as a converse of the proposition that he never says what he does not mean,) these terms applied to me do not permit me to ~~lay~~ apply the smallest flattering unction to my soul that he has not given the very meanest opinion one man can entertain of another But I am less hurt on my own personal accou than I am shaken on another far more material point:- If Mr P. can so pervert fact & misrepresent individuals, & misjudge moti as he has done in my case, - & hastily damn a man's character as he has sought to damn mine in that letter of his - it leads me to the conclusion that on the great question of he is so distinguished an advocate, his judgem may be equally at fault, & his testimony equally open to suspicion; especially where personal feeling is allowed to enter into his estimate of men & things. He may misrepresent other men ~~& things~~ who do not see as he sees, as he has don me, & with no more substantial reason; & I sha henceforth receive with extreme caution any statement he may make, unless he connect with a glossary of explanations to prevent per from attaching to well-known terms their ordinary signification.

I have only to add that nothing that has happ or may happen will divert me from the straigh path I have endeavoured to follow in relation to the A.S. cause & those who are connected with it o both sides.

My kindest regards to yr father & Believe me -
My dr Miss Estlin, Yrs sincerely
L. A. Chamerovzow

[5th sheet]

Mr Webb's observations on the Correspondence between Messrs Pillsbury & Chamerovzow.

Dublin March 5. 55.

Dr Mr Michell,

"Here I am fresh from the perusal of Mr Chamw's long & fluent letter. He makes out a very good case for him, & considering the kind of provocation he got, writes with remarkable good humor & forbearance. I think P. P. gave him a fine handle in making such a fuss about being beckoned out of the room, & another in the curious winding up of his letter of dismissal. It is very foolish for the two men to have anything to do with each other. Pillsbury is a rough, earnest man, with his heart in his work, not over courteous, or precise in obeying the requisitions of exact taste. Mr Chamw is gifted with great self-restraint, evenness of temper, & good humor, & is not impelled by an excessive zeal for anything but a desire to secure the due supply of his bread & butter. P. P. is thin-skinned, impulsive, & sensitive, with a poetical temperament, Mr Ch. is troubled with none of these qualities. The less the two men have to do with each other the better, & I am sure I hope they may keep asunder in future. I am quite unable to see what can be effected for the Cause, thro' the instrumentality of Mr Chamw or those by whom he is supported. And after the London Conference & its revelations, any lingering hope I had that the B.& F. A.S. Society or their Secretary could or would help us or our friends in good faith has entirely disappeared."

Mr W. to Miss Estlin (confidential.) Dublin Mar. 26-55.

Dr Miss Estlin,

××× "P. Pillsbury does not write to me, I believe because I gave him a gentle rap on the knuckles for his horrible onslaught on Cham. I think Mr C. a bit of a sham, but I do not believe he merited such a savage attack. However I was extremely cautious knowing how touchy our dear friend is. Say nothing to him of this. He is a child of genius."

[2nd] March 26-55

(2) "I think Pillsbury a perfect puzzle with his mingled ferocity & touchiness. He is like a decorticated giant, powerful in attack, but unable to bear a touch without wincing. I too was amazed at the tone of Mr Ch's letter to you, remarking upon P. P.s onslaught. He must be either a miracle of good temper, a great rogue, or a very good Christian. I think P. P. is too reckless in making charges that cannot be met as Englishmen demand that charges when made shall be met.

Rev. F. Bishop to Miss Estlin.

Dr Miss E. Liverpool May 6 - 55.

I shd like very much if they are at hand to see the letters between Mr Ch. & Mr P. I confess I do not much wonder that the latter feels galled. The bare facts as to his having been asked to speak last year by Mr Chap. wh tells well in a special pleader's brief but yet we know, notwithstanding all this fair outside, he has not been met with that true & candid manliness, & cordial confidence & respect; to wh on his own account, as well as for the sake of the Socy with wh he is connected, he is so fully entitled. His treatment at the London Conference & I mean in the little diplomatic scenes away from the public room, - was not such as to make him feel that he was among earnest, outspoken, brethren. He was not admitted to confidence, but caressed, rallied & played with, as tho' he had been a great troublesome child to be coaxed & humored, rather than a man to be consulted & listened to with respect. I have never said so to Mr P. himself, nor wd I say it to him, but I saw it nevertheless, & he must have felt it. Nothing in fact cd well be more offensive, to a man of his truthful & earnest character than such treatment. Perhaps if he had a little more of "the wisdom of the serpent" he wd be better suited for the post of representative of the Am. A.S. Soc. in this country; but tact & policy, & what some wd call "good taste", are not the qualities for wh the members of that Socy generally are famed, & I think there are not many among them who wd make such true & endearing friends of the Socy as Mr Pillsbury, wherever he has a fair & full opportunity of being heard. I regret his sensitiveness, but most if not all of that must be ascribed to his ill health."

Dr Miss E. 11 Cecil St. Strand London. May 30th

I thank you very much for the opportunity of reading the enclosed [correspondence between Messs. Ch. & P.] I think it a great pity that our friend P. P. shd have written in so denunciatory a tone to Mr Ch. it wd have been more dignified & more worthy of himself to have treated the matter with more calmness. but at the same time we must remember that his cause of provocation was by no means small. He cd not regard Mr Ch. as sincere & candid in his treatment of him, or look upon his professions of friendship in any other light than conventional terms used for the sake of convenience & as a part of the apparatus of management by wh he was to be made if possible to fall in with Mr Ch's plans of expediency. Mr Chs letter is most plausible, but most uncandid & sophistical. Not always true in the letter even (tho' the inaccuracies that strike me are I doubt not unintentional) it is especially false in spirit, & wd leave an impression as to the treatment Mr P. received at the time of the Conference the very reverse of the facts. I have not time now to point the many marks of want of candor very apparent to me who had an opportunity of seeing all that passed, but I cd not return you the Correspondence without this remark."

We leave for Antwerp tomorrow. Yrs very truly

Francis Bishop,

Mr Pillsbury to Mr & Miss Estlin enclosing the letter from Mr Cham.n & his proposed rejoinder

130 Ormond St: Manchester
Feb 18-55

My ever dear Friends

Enclosed is my epistle from Mr Chame. It is to me a most impudent, insulting, unbearable piece of palavering, diplomatic, dissimulation, deception, hypocrisy I never saw the man's like before. I enclose his letter & the only answer I can possibly give it. Will you read both & send both to him in the envelope wh. now contains them if you see no objection. If you do, withhold both. But you need no copy of mine, as I have preserved one. Of his letter I wish no copy. Sending them to you will prevent me from acting rashly. As for correspondence with such a being, it is not to be thought of for a moment. I wd. not do him ~~the~~ such an awful injury as to allow him to suppose he is not to me more transparent than man can make glass, or than nature can refine crystals."

[Mr P.s proposed reply to Mr Ch. began in this form.]

"Mr L. A. Chamerovzow,

"When an individual rudely beckons me with his forefinger out of a room, & trots me before him as a prison warden wd. a criminal &c. &c. &c. × ×
he puts it out of my power to correspond with him. This you have done & had I no other reasons I shd. decline further intercourse with you at present. All this however shall not prevent my remaining forbearingly & forgivingly

Yr. sincere friend & constant wellwisher P. Pillsbury

P.S. The no. of slaves I stated to have been imported annually was 9 or 10 thousand. Judge Jay &c. &c. &c.

But what did you mean by telling Mr Estlin you cd. not get the speeches for yr. report of the Conference. Have you ever asked me for mine? And what — — — — — — — — — "

[We suggested that the letter shd. begin with the first paragraph, that the 2nd shd. be entirely omitted as being irrelevant, & that the personal grievance shd. come last; that the termination was very opposite to the cold formality with wh. an Englishman wd. wind up such a letter, but of ~~that~~ its propriety Mr P. could judge, & that he had better introduce a sentence to this effect

"I am astonished to be told you felt any desire to meet me "in London. During the two days we were together in the Conference "you gave me no intimation to this effect. I remained in "town several days afterwards (& my address was to be found in the "book at the door of the room where we met.) My impression was that you "wished to avoid me." &c. &c.

Ms.B.1.6 v.5 p.

Mr P.'s reply to these suggestions.

Manchester 23 Feb. 55.

"Your reversals in my valedictory to Chapm. are very discre
& judicious. I cannot thank you too much for them — alth
they reveal a dulness on my part wh makes me feel "wondrou
kind" towards the obtuseness of the Birkenhead minister of
whom we are treating. I have made the alterations, but ha
added a few mild hints as to to some of his previous ~~sin~~
~~-[illegible]~~ sinuosities wh admit of being followed by these word
of caution "You must not presume people so blind as no
to see thro' such gauze & gossamer."

From Mr P. after perusing Mr Ch.s lr to Miss E.

My dr friends   Headingley 2nd March '5

For so you must let me call you until yr London correspon
shall expose a little more clearly the depravity & hypocrisy of wh
seems to think me capable & indeed guilty. His letter is ~~[illegible]~~ i
keeping with all he has ever written that have come to my
knowledge. The only part to be noticed, at least by me is on the 3rd s
It might be called a deliberate lie, or it might be something else. × × ×
[Mr P. points out contradictions & anachronisms &c.]
I never saw a more glaring deliberate tissue of misrepresenta
in my life. I do not know whether the creature is weak or wicke
But my breathing is ~~freer~~ better since shaking myself clear of
And this last letter of his shows me it was not done too soon. H
object in sending it to you cannot be misunderstood. Perhaps
will accomplish it. He will surely leave no stone unturned, no
effort untried." × × × ×   I subscribe as ever — Parker Pillsbury.

[I replied very guardedly & very briefly to Mr P., weighing every word indeed with
Father & my Aunt, to save him from being annoyed by my want of caution.
only said that the terms he had used towards Mr Ch. being elicited by
in the letter to wh he was replying, & being such as were only adopted i
this country towards a swindler or thief, or by a person meaning to give
accept a challenge, he must not be surprised at Mr Ch's taking ad
tage of them, & turning the communication to account to his Mr P.'s [illegible]
but that having satisfied his own mind in the matter there was no occas
to dwell long upon it. That we could not help perceiving he had lost some van
ground & given Mr C. a plausible handle of complaint, by thus "travelling out of
record", but as the exposure of Broad St. hollowness was but a question of
the subject could be safely dismissed. This entirely failed to satisfy
poor Mr P. who evinced such morbid unreasonableness in his
that I told him he was not in a state of mind to discuss controversial
& ~~that~~ I have never answered any subsequent allusions to this topic
his letters. He wrote in this strain.]

Mar. 6-55. Heading

"Yr letter is what might have been expected, & yet it saddens me
very much. You never can know me as I know myself. Only Go
ever can. It was a great mistake that I ever came to this Country.
must let me alone to my fate. You cannot make me what you w
have me. There is not a pattern large enough. I know all that you wo
do, appreciate all, venerate, admire you for all. The eternities m
do your work. Time will not be long enough. If you knew all the stra
I have endured in coming thus far, you wd wonder that I have done so well.
Faith still sustains me. Hope, awe smiling angel, still cheers me; but you w
only let me "work my passage" for that is the only way I am to make the voyage of life], t

[6th sheet]

"continue to look as charitably on my constant weakness as you have hitherto, I trust by the grace of God you may see me yet among the "shining ones." Criticise me to the extremest verge of necessity or propriety, I will love & reverence you all the more. But do not embarrass me by expecting more of me than I am capable of or suppose me other than I have ever striven to have you understand me as being one of the most erring of mortal men. Only allow me to possess my just worth. I have an ideal but it will be yet long before I attain to it. As to Mr Ch—'s, it is no ~~[illegible]~~ matter about sending me his letters. My intercourse with him is for the present ended. Half the reasons are not, cannot be written, the most cogent cannot be. Let me just say once for all that the unwritten, unwriteable portion of my knowledge of & intercourse with, Mr Ch— weighs far more in my reasons for leaving him than all else besides. You will take your course with him, as independently as I have mine. It will doubtless be the reverse of mine [!!] but you must allow me to love & cling to you still.

Mr Garrison still exhibits the admirable charity of clinging to Geo. Thompson. He has a sad reputation for intolerance but no man ever hopes & loves to the very last like him. I do not know certainly that the "Advocate" has done him that full justice wh Mr G. wd demand. Old time is a tyrant to destroy yr Abbeys & Castles, but he corrects many, O how many of our mistakes. The "verbatim report of the London Conference" will at length come from print. Let me still hold some place in yr kind regards,—I mean all of you,—& believe me still ever yrs grateful, hopeful & loving Parker Pillsbury."

[Tho' I meant only to copy a few sentences as a specimen of Mr P.'s letter I have gone on because it introduces you to his unhealthy state of mind, & may not be a useless key hereafter. He addresses himself to a number of things I never did say or think & avoids the simple matter of fact remark I did actually make. It wd seem as if we had reproached him with some fault or blunder had urged a course of conciliation upon him, & had been ourselves acted upon by Mr Ch—'s sophistry; whereas I only incidentally brought in the observation about the power Mr Ch. had of perverting Mr P.'s communication to a bad use; [owing to its phraseology being un-English & applicable to what he conceived of Mr Ch, instead of to ~~what~~ anything he had proved against him, by convicting him out of his own mouth) Mr P. adheres to this distorted notion of us to this day. He sent a message thro' me to Mr Steinthal that he was glad the Report of the Conference has opened his (Mr S.'s) eyes, as now he wd perhaps like him (Mr P.) better! Mr S. wrote for an explanation wh Mr P. gave to the same purport as the above letters to us. Saying he knew so many things that we didn't about Broad St. that he must make allowance for us. That we had not gone thro' the 20 years experience of Broad St.'s past treachery, & therefore that we cannot make allowances for or apprehend his distrust of the Society! However he rejoices that we are getting a little light!! Now as we have talked over the

whole history of our nine years war with Broad St., shown Mr P. also our
printed papers & manuscripts; told him our views of ea
& every element of the Broad St. Com^e., & found ourselves
entire accordance with him; traced with him all the
labyrinths of the Conference & its policy, the diplomacy of M
Ch. &c. &c., we are at a loss to know what has been re
served for Mr P., or for a single report spread since
left Bristol, to reveal to us! It only illustrates the
diseased way in which his mind fastens upon errone
views of a subject, & the impossibility of dislodging them
by direct efforts. His continental travel will I trus
recruit his strength, & remove these specks from hi
vision. He is very dear to us all; none the less so,
for our grief at his undue sensitiveness & want of
self-confidence & worldly tact. [ ] This letter will we kn
never be read by any one who does not know & lov
him as we do ourselves, so I have not scrupled to p
together everything pertaining to the controversy
even the strictly personal & private parts. Mr Bish
always expresses our own views better than I can, & h
meets every point of the case. Neither he nor any o
else except Mr Webb w^d. ever have seen these, letters
thro' our instrumentality, but for my Father's inadverte
presenting some part of their contents to Mr Steinthal's
notice. This ~~led to~~ involved his seeing the whole, & led to his writing wi
some excitement to friends here & in America about M
Pillsbury's deficiency in some needful qualificatio
for an agent of the Am. A.S. Soc^y. His having written
to Boston, & my Father's wi[illegible]hat our friends
there sh^d. see all the documents that have come
to our notice in this connection is the reason
of my consigning them to Mr May's keeping to ~~[illegible]~~
read himself & to show to any of the intimate frien
of the Cause whom he thinks ought to be acquainted w
the details of a transient breeze which will perha
leave no trace behind. I hope it is readable bu
for some part is too closely written.
With kindest regards from my Father & myself to Messrs Garrison
Phillips, Quincy, H. C. Wright, & all the ~~friends~~ " who will accept th
I remain faithfully yours & theirs
Mary A. Estlin.
(Rev. S. May J^r.)

ms B.1.6 v.5 p.5